

Food & Environmental Allergy, and Anaphylaxis Policy TROOP 1

Troop 1 strives to be an inclusive and supportive environment for the benefit of the Scouts, Adults and parents who participate at Troop outings. Participation in the outings is a wonderful privilege and the Adult Leaders make every effort to provide a safe and secure environment for all. The purpose of this policy is to inform participants and families regarding the policies with respect to the issues of Food & Environmental Allergy, and Anaphylaxis.

Outings could take place anywhere from the established boundaries of community to a backwoods, high adventure outing secluded from direct access to many services that people expect in a modern town or city. This includes but is not limited to emergency response times by official Emergency Personnel. As such, professional resources for the treatment of life-threatening medical conditions may be logistically limited to simple support and waiting for modern rescue resources to arrive, evacuate the victim and render specific treatment to immediate response by official Emergency Personnel.

Severe allergy to environmental toxins, for example bee stings, or food allergies, such as peanuts, may pose a life-threatening medical condition in certain individuals with these immunologic sensitivities. The severity of these conditions is unique to the individual and can be unpredictable in scope and seriousness.

Troop 1 has an active Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Emergency Care plan in place for the initial evaluation and intervention in the situation that these symptoms occur in participants while attending a Troop 1 outing. This care plan includes the use of Antihistamines and the injection of Epinephrine (Epi-pens) in the attempt to initially ameliorate or delay life-threatening complications of Anaphylaxis. However, it must be candidly stated that Antihistamines and Epinephrine may not be effective in the treatment of life-threatening complications.

Because of the distant and secluded nature of some of Troop 1's outings and the logistical limitations that exist, and the fact that each participant is a unique individual with respect to their sensitivity to Allergic stimuli, each participant and their responsible party (guardian or parent) should consider these facts before choosing to participate in specific outings.

In addition, every effort needs to be made by you to examine the content of the food purchased/prepared at these outings. However, some foods provided may be commercially prepared and packaged and it is beyond to scope of the Adult leaders or fellow Patrol members to insure the content of the food provided to the participants. The task to avoid allergens is the responsibility of the participants and their guardians. In some cases, participants may find it wiser to bring all their food and not eat prepared/provided food. There will be no financial consideration if the participant or guardian(s) elect to not eat the food provided/prepared at the outings.

The Adult Leader is committed to providing the safest and most supportive environment possible given the realities of the terrain. Although every effort will be made to make this possible, individuals with documented severe reactions to Allergic stimuli may choose to not participate.

All participants and their guardians, who knowingly have any form of allergies, must inform Troop 1 of said allergies and fill out, sign and submit a Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan and a Food and Environmental Allergy Consent to Participate Form for Troop Outing(s).